

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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63

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 OIC-04 SCSE-00 IO-13 DRC-01 RSC-01

/033 W

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R 121448Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8606

UNCLAS PRETORIA 3269

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON,SF

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ON DRAFT CONVENTION ON UNIFORM LAW  
ON THE FORM OF INTERNATIONAL WILLS

REFERENCE: (A) PRETORIA A-94, JUNE 21,1973

(B) STATE A-3800,MAY 8,1973

1. SOUTH AFRICA DEPARTMENT FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS INFORMED EMBASSY BY NOTE DATED SEPTEMBER 7 THAT ONE OF TWO OFFICERS AT ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WILL ATTEND SUBJECT CONFERENCE AS AN OBSERVER.THE TWO OFFICERS DESIGNATED ARE N.P. VAN HEERDEN,COUNSELLOR, AND A. KILIAN,THIRD SECRETARY. DFA ASKS THAT ACCREDITATION BE ARRANGED FOR BOTH OFFICERS SINCE, AT THIS TIME,IT UNCERTAIN WHICH OF THE TWO WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND. PLEASE ADVISE.

2. BY EARLIER SEPERATE NOTE,DFA FORWARDED FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT CONVENTION: QTE ALTHOUGH IT APPEARS FROM EXPLANATORY REPORT AT PAGE 31 THAT THE FORMALITIES SET OUT IN ARTICLE 5 WERE JUDGED TO BE OF MINOR IMPORTANCE,IT IS FELT THAT ARTICLE 5 OF THE DRAFT INIFORM LAW ON THE FORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL WILL SHOULD BE INCLUDED UNDER THE PEREMPTORY PROVISIONS FOR THE VALIDITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL WILL AS CONTEMPLATED IN ARTICLE 1 TO FACILITATE PROOF OF THE DOCUMENT AND THAT THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 4 AND 5 COULD CONVENIENTLY BE COMBINED. FURTHER,IT MAY BE MENTIONED THAT THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PHRASES MAY, IN HE ABSENCE OF AN INTERPRETATION SECTION,

GIVE RISE TO INTERPRETATION PROBLEMS: "SIGN" (IN E.G.  
ARTICLE 4) AND "UNLESS THE SHEETS FOLLOW EACH OTHER AND  
FORM A WHOLE" (ARTICLE 5.2).THE DRAFT ALSO DOES NOT PROVIDE  
FOR THE PLACE ON THE WILL WHERE THE WITNESSES AND THE  
AUTHORIZED PERSON SHOULD SIGN,AND IN THE CASE OF A WILL  
CONSISTING OF SEVERAL SHEETS, IT IS NOT CLEAR WHY  
PROVISION IS MADE FOR SIGNING BY THE TESTATOR ONLY.UNQTE.  
SMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
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**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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